

August 12, 2008

Dear High School Guidance Counselor and/or Teacher:

Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, the Indiana Department of Education, and Ivy Tech Community College, will sponsor our eighth annual workshop geared toward informing **Hispanic** high school students about post-secondary education. This year's **M.E.T.A.: Mapping Education Towards Achievement** workshop will take place on **Friday, October 3, 2008 from 8:00 – 1:45** at the IUPUI campus.



Schools may arrange to have Hispanic students attend this workshop as a field trip offered by their schools. This year we are prioritizing high school juniors and seniors; however, schools may consider sophomores who are college bound or express interest in post-secondary education. We recommend that schools ask sophomores to submit an essay to their teacher for consideration to attend. Rather than extending an invitation to students based on ethnicity, we urge schools to select students based on their interest in exploring career fields and furthering their education beyond high school. Students that attend M.E.T.A. are expected to:

- behave in a respectful and mature manner
- be attentive during all presentations
- attend all scheduled sessions of the workshop
- dress appropriately for the event (business casual)

Please communicate these expectations to all participating students prior to the M.E.T.A. workshop. Volunteers will assist teachers/counselors with ensuring that students meet these expectations during the workshop.

All schools in the Indianapolis area are invited to participate, but we will be limited to a total of 300 students, or 20 students from each participating high school. **We hope that this event is already on your calendar as a field trip opportunity for this fall and that if it is not, that you will add it to the calendar.**

Format: For those who have attended in the past, please take note that the general format has changed. There will be no continental breakfast. Registration will begin at 8:00 and students will be asked to be seated in the Lecture Hall immediately upon registration. The Guidance Counselor and/or Teachers who accompany the students must pick up a packet at the registration desk. This packet will contain name tags for the students with the sessions they will attend. At 8:30 we will have a general assembly with a Keynote speech. After the Keynote address, everyone will stay in the Lecture Hall to hear a session on Immigration and Documentation, and a session on Financial Aid and Scholarships. At 10:05 the students will move to Cavanaugh Hall and will attend **two** career presentations, presented by bilingual Hispanics working in their area of expertise. After the career sessions, students will go to the Multicultural Center for lunch from 12:15 – 12:45 and will then take part in a college fair from 12:45 – 1:10 with exhibit tables from various colleges. Following lunch everyone will return to the Lecture Hall for the prize drawing, closing remarks and evaluations. Dismissal to buses will be at 1:40 p.m.

This year schools will complete an online registration to attend, starting on **August 13, 2008**. **The registration for all students from each school will be submitted by a teacher/counselor or other school staff.** The registration form, a letter for parents and photo/video consent forms will be posted online at <http://www.doe.state.in.us/lmmp/metaworkshop.html>. Each school is responsible for obtaining field trip consent forms used by the individual schools. These documents and the registration form

Thank you for your interest. We look forward to this educational event, and we hope that our partnership efforts will enhance educational opportunities for Hispanics students within the state. If you have any questions about the M.E.T.A. workshop, please contact Enrica J. Ardemagni at 317-274-8957, eardema@iupui.edu, or Lauren Harvey, 317-232-0555, lh Harvey@doe.in.gov.

Sincerely,
2008 M.E.T.A. Planning Committee